

WASHTENAW COUNTY COURT HOUSE.



CLEARY BUSINESS COLLEGE—YPSILANTI.

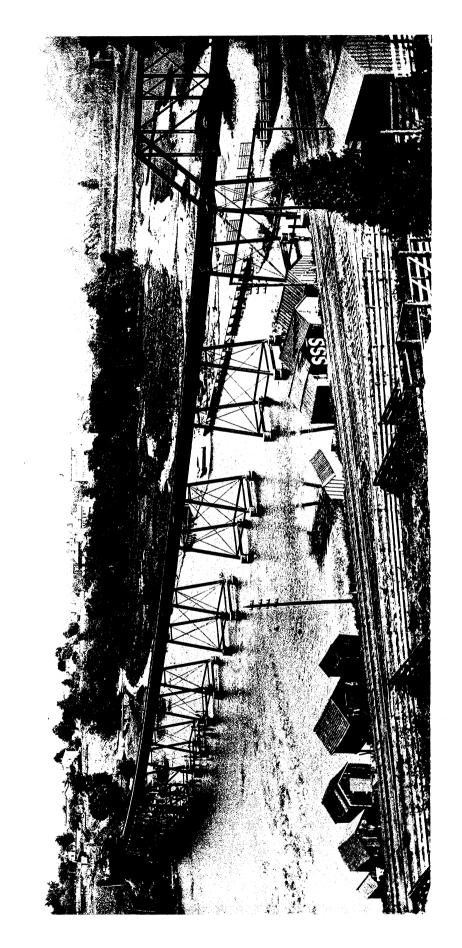


RESIDENCE OF MR. W. A. ROBISON—YPSILANTI.

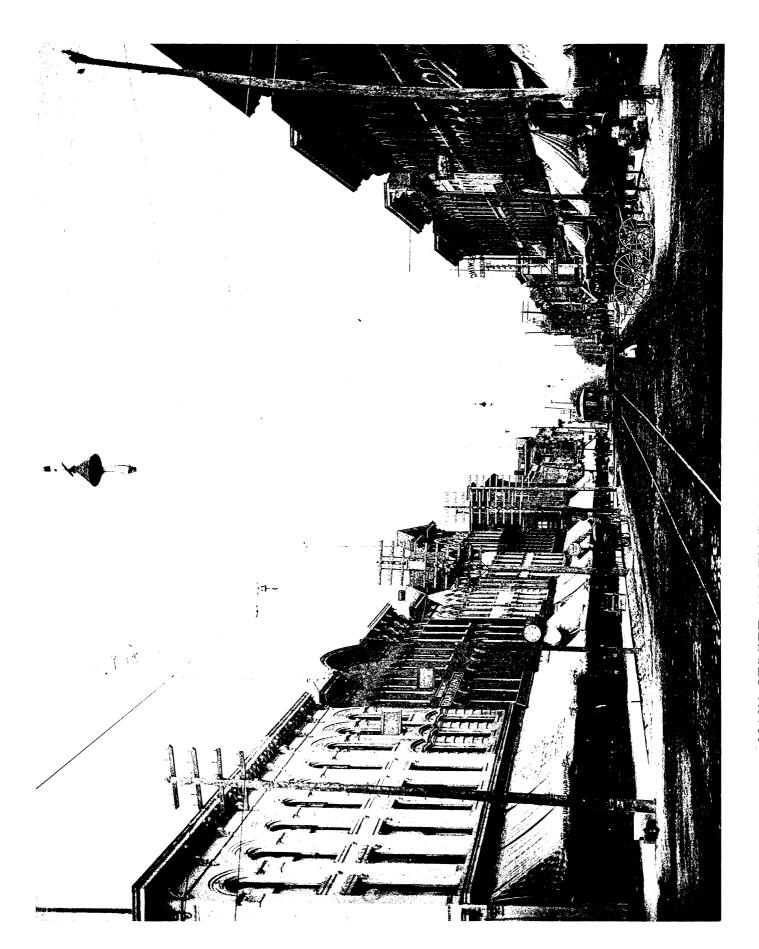


RESIDENCE OF MR. SAMUEL POST—YISILANTI.

MUSEUM AT UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.



T. A. A. & N. M. R. R. BRIDGE AT ANN ARBOR.



MAIN STREET, NORTH FROM LIBERTY STREET-ANN ARBOR.

company was organized with Elisha W. Rumsey as captain, and general training days were inaugurated, but the company was never called upon to do any actual fighting, although as late as 1827 several hundred Indians surrounded the village.

From the start Ann Arbor became prominent. It was made the county seat in 1824. It was made a postoffice in 1825, John Allen being the first postmaster and the mail being carried by Indian trails. In 1834 the village had a population of 830, and four years later it had grown to be a place of about 2,000. The village was incorporated April 23, 1833, in which year the munificent sum of \$300 was raised for village expenses. In was incorporated as a city April 4, 1851.

The first county court was held at the house of Erastus Priest in the village of Ann Arbor on the third Monday in January, 1827, with the Hon. Samuel W. Dexter chief justice, the grand jury indicting the man in whose house the court was held for selling liquor in less quantities than one quart. This was the only case tried at this term of court and Priest was found not guilty. Three licenses were granted. The circuit court of Washtenaw county was established in 1827 and its first term held in November, 1829.

So rapidly was the county settled up that the total number of votes cast at elections grew from 247 in 1827 to 590 in 1831 and to 4,105 in 1837.

The first public building erected in the new county was a jail built in 1829. A court house was not built until 1834. The present handsome court house was erected on the site of the old one in 1877 on the public square, which was the price Allen and Rumsey paid for securing the county seat. The first jail building was replaced in 1837 and the present handsome little jail was built in 1885, but so free from crime is the county that the inmates do not average more than three or four a day.

The first newspaper to be published in the new county was the Western Emigrant started in Ann Arbor in November, 1829, as the organ of the Anti-Masons. In a few years the county seat had a number of papers, only one of which, the Argus, started in 1835, has come down to battle with its modern rivals.

Ann Arbor soon became one of the leading villages of the State and it was here that the constitutional convention was held which gave the assent of the State to the terms proposed by Congress for its admission into the Union. In the early days of statehood all the political